

Appl. No. 10/086,912  
 Response dated September 15, 2005  
 Reply to Office Action of March 15, 2005

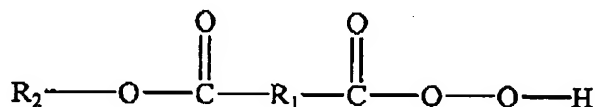
### Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A stabilized ester peroxycarboxylic acid composition comprising consisting of:

about 4 wt-% to about 10 wt-% an ester peroxycarboxylic acid having the formula



wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently an organic group or a substituted organic group; and about 0.5 wt-% to about 80 wt-% C<sub>2</sub> or higher alcohol; the C<sub>2</sub> or higher alcohol being suitable for use in food products, for cleaning or sanitizing food processing equipment or materials, for use in a health-care environment, or a combination thereof;

the C<sub>2</sub> or higher alcohol being effective to stabilize the ester peroxycarboxylic acid, without an additional stabilizer, and maintain at least about 30 % of antimicrobial activity of the composition for at least about 3 months;

buffer effective to maintain pH about 4 to about 7,

the buffer consisting of citric acid and citrate salt, of phosphoric acid and phosphoric acid salt, or of boric acid and boric acid salt; and

wherein the composition has no being free of added stabilizer.

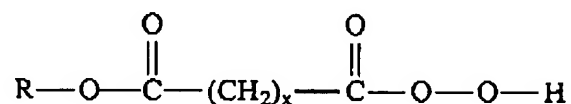
2. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the C<sub>2</sub> or higher alcohol comprises ethanol, isopropanol, n-propanol, n-butanol, isobutanol, tert-butanol, pentanol, glycerol, propylene glycol, butylene glycol, hexylene glycol, glycerine, polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, polybutylene glycol, or a combination thereof.

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3-29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein  $R_1$  or  $R_2$  is an alkyl, linear, cyclic, aromatic or saturated organic group.

31. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 30, wherein ester peroxycarboxylic acid is an alkyl ester peroxycarboxylic acid having the formula



wherein R represents an alkyl group having from 1 to 4 carbons and x is 0 to 5.

32. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 31 wherein x is 1 to 4.

33. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 32 wherein x is 2, 3 or 4.

34. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 31 wherein the alkyl group is a straight chain.

35. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 31 wherein the alkyl group is branched.

36. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 31 wherein R is a methyl, ethyl, propyl, or isobutyl group.